

ON THE EVOLUTION OF LOCALIZED DISTURBANCES AND
THEIR SPANWISE INTERACTIONS LEADING TO BREAKDOWN

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ABSTRACT

Localized Disturbances in a laminar boundary layers represent a more realistic model of transition than the extensively studied, two or quasy three-dimensional perturbations regardless of the fact if they evolve in a linear manner or not. Localized disturbances can originate by surface imperfections, insects or dust. The disturbances can be Harmonic (i.e. containing a single frequency and a complete set of spanwise wave numbers) or Pulsed (i.e. containing a band of streamwise and spanwise wave numbers).

At sufficiently low amplitudes localized disturbances behave according to a linear stability model. It is highly probable that in a natural transition process such localized disturbances will overlap and interact. These interactions could either delay transition because of a partial wave cancellation resulting in an attenuation of the disturbance, or adversely enhance it by promoting non linear interactions. The non linearity could be simply amplitude dependent or cause a triad resonance. Non linear processes in a wave packet lead to breakdown and to the formation of turbulent spots. When the amplitude of the harmonic disturbance saturates, non linear processes widen the band of the lower amplified frequencies adjacent to the frequency of excitation.

Experimental results describing the spanwise interactions of harmonic and pulsed localized disturbances leading to breakdown will be presented and discussed. A comparison to the evolution and breakdown of a single localized disturbance will be provided.

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On the Evolution of Localized Disturbances and their Spanwise Interactions Leading to Breakdown

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OBJECTIVES

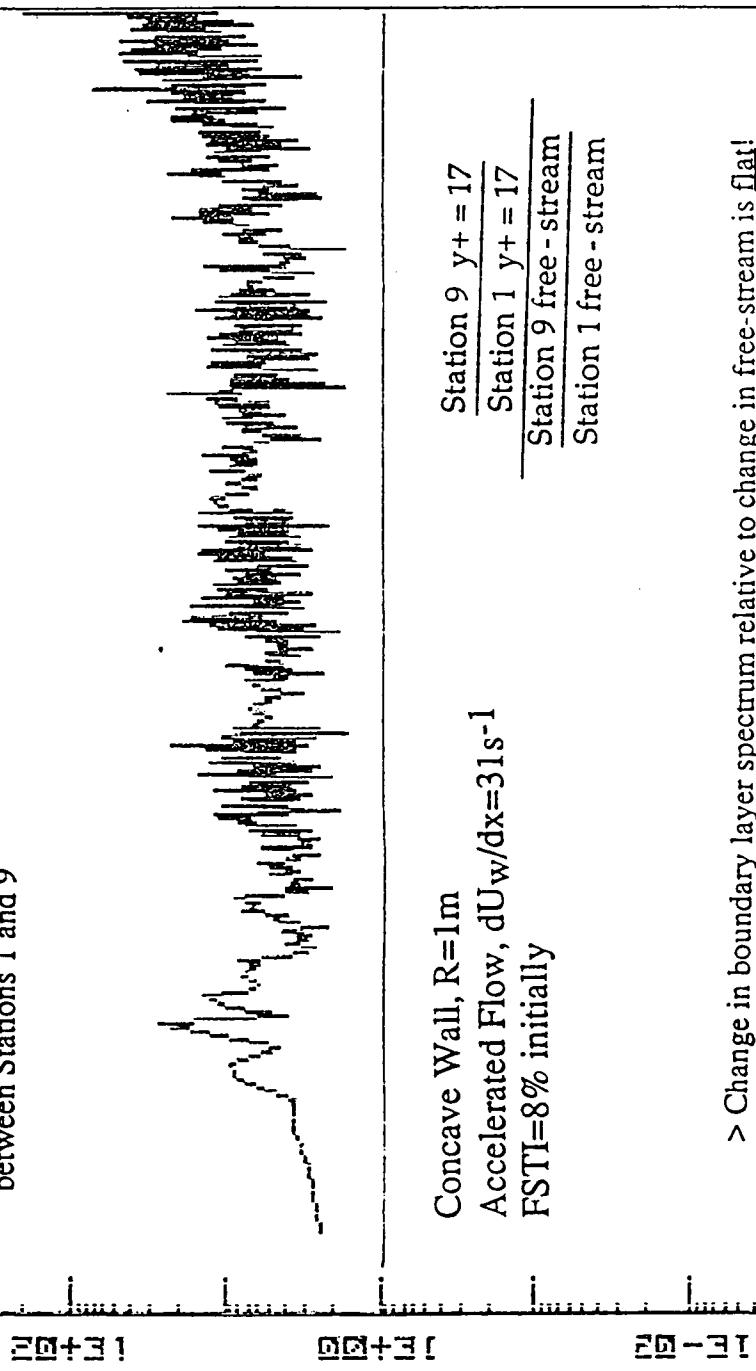
DOES SPANWISE INTERACTION OF LOCALIZED DISTURBANCES
PROMOTES TRANSITION ?

Comments about NATURE of TRANSITION
due to an ISOLATED:
Harmonic Point Source and Wave Packet

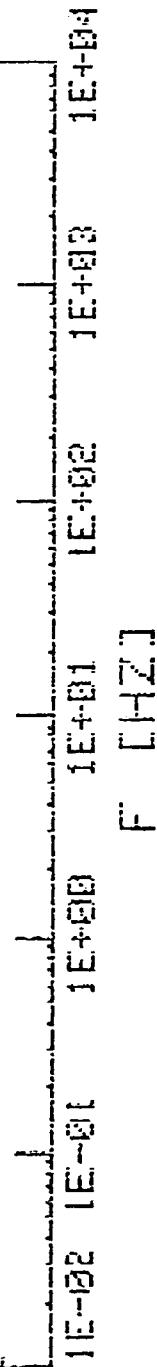
Relevance / Difference between TRANSITION
due to TWO HPS INTERACTION and TWO WP INTERACTION
(leading to breakdown)

SPECTRA RATIO

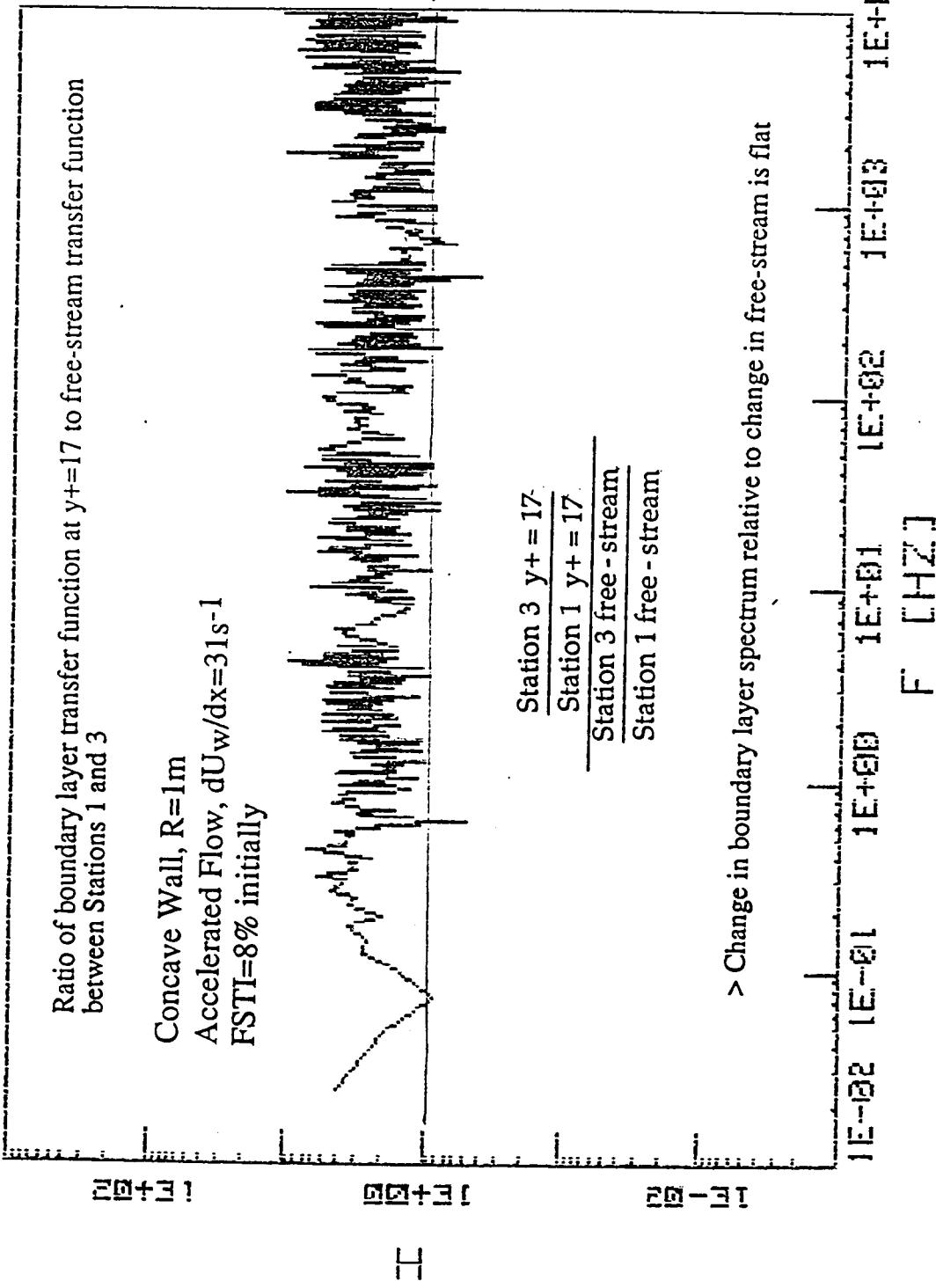
Ratio of boundary layer transfer function at $y+=17$ to free-stream transfer function
between Stations 1 and 9



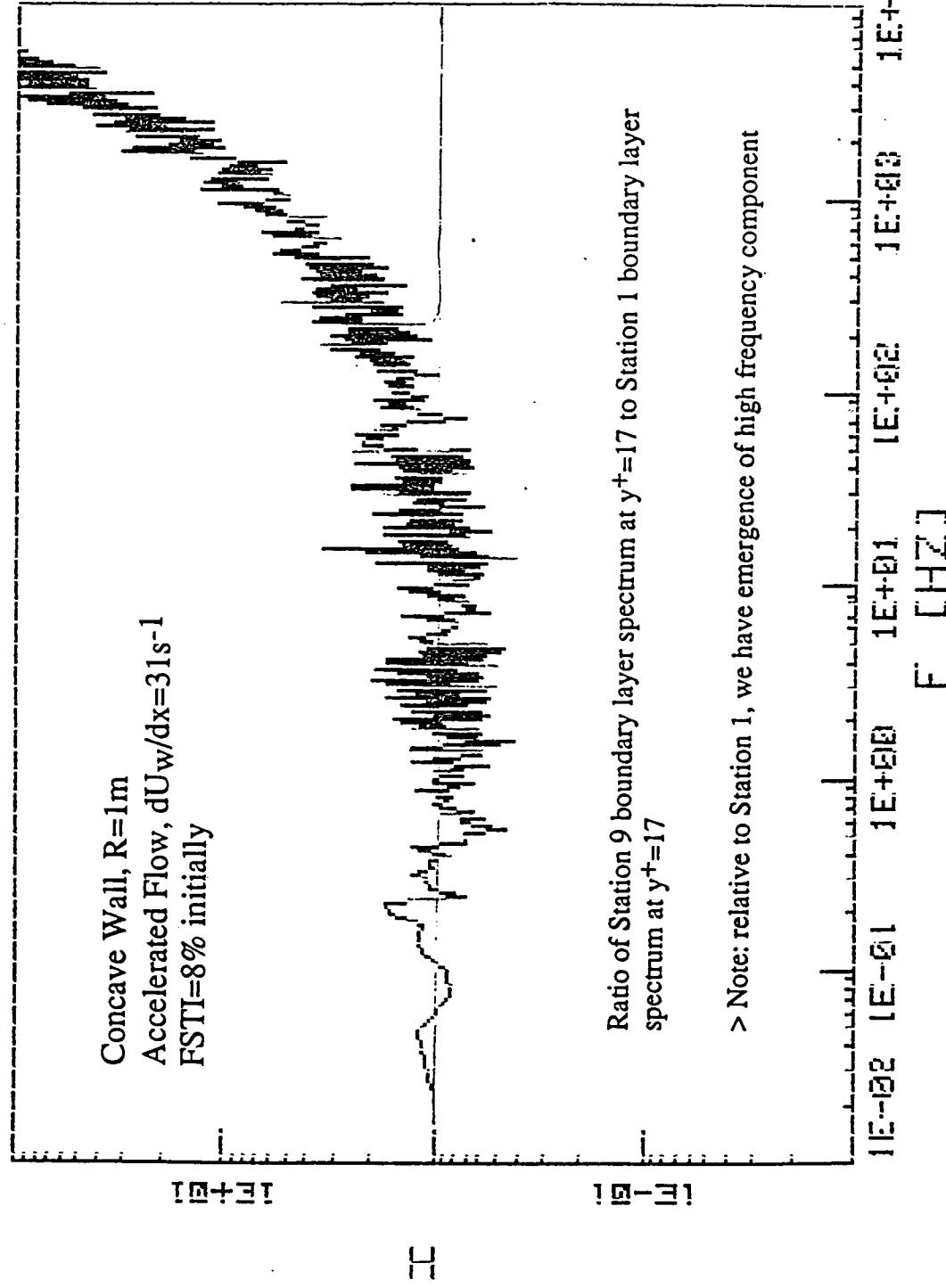
> Change in boundary layer spectrum relative to change in free-stream is flat!



SPECTRA RATIO



TRANSFER FUNCTION

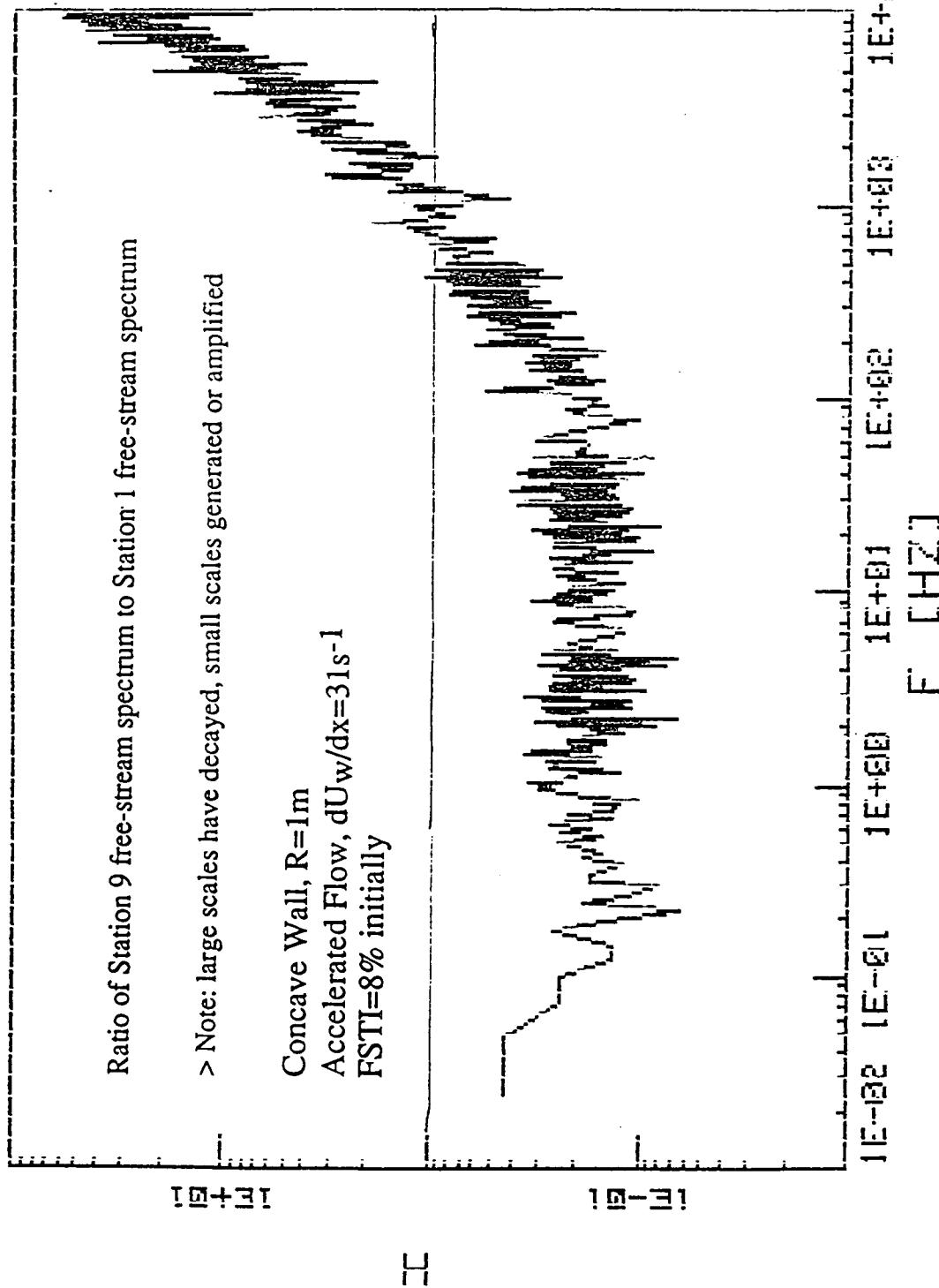


TRANSFER FUNCTION

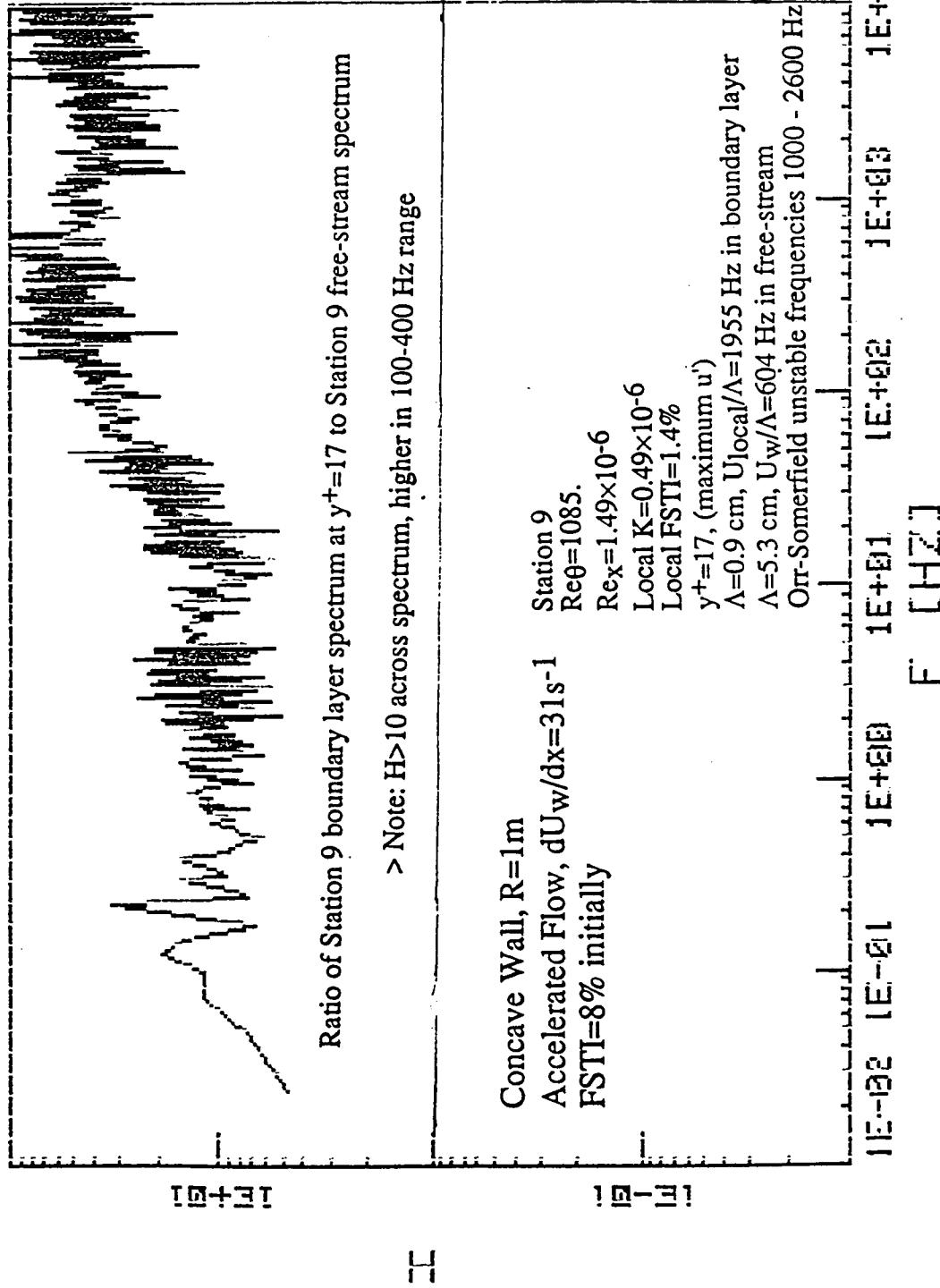
Ratio of Station 9 free-stream spectrum to Station 1 free-stream spectrum

> Note: large scales have decayed, small scales generated or amplified

Concave Wall, $R=1\text{m}$
Accelerated Flow, $dU_w/dx=31\text{s}^{-1}$
FSTI=8% initially



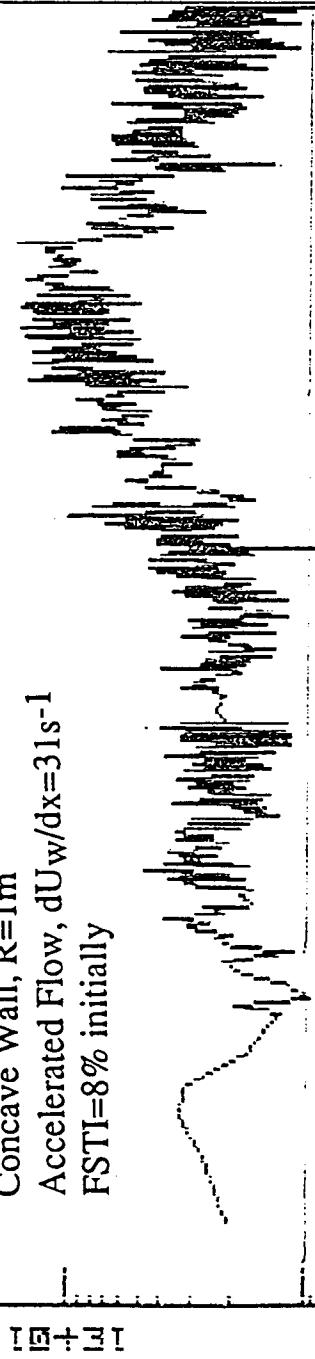
TRANSFER FUNCTION



TRANSFER FUNCTION

Ratio of Station 1 boundary layer spectrum at $y^+=17$ to Station 1 free-stream spectrum

Concave Wall, $R=1\text{m}$
 Accelerated Flow, $dU_w/dx=31\text{s}^{-1}$
 $FSTI=8\%$ initially



Station 1
 $Re_\theta=525.5$

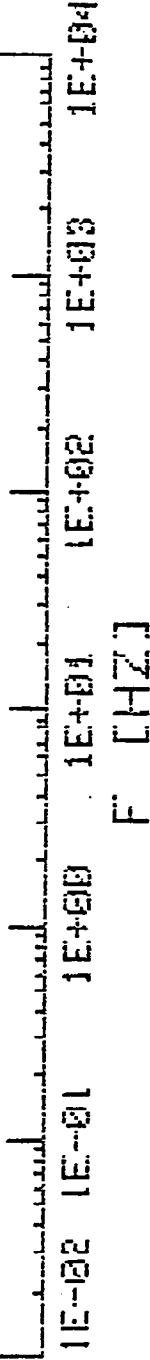
$Re_x=0.83\times 10^{-5}$

Local $K=2.85\times 10^{-6}$
 Local $FSTI=5.5\%$

$y^+=17$, (maximum u')
 $\Lambda=1.2 \text{ cm}$, $U_{\text{local}}/\Lambda=660 \text{ Hz}$ in boundary layer

$\Lambda=4.5 \text{ cm}$, $U_w/\Lambda=300 \text{ Hz}$ in free-stream
 Orr-Sommerfeld unstable frequencies 450 - 900 Hz

$$H_t(f) = \frac{\phi_t(f)_{\text{boundary layer}}}{\phi_t(f)_{\text{freestream}}}$$



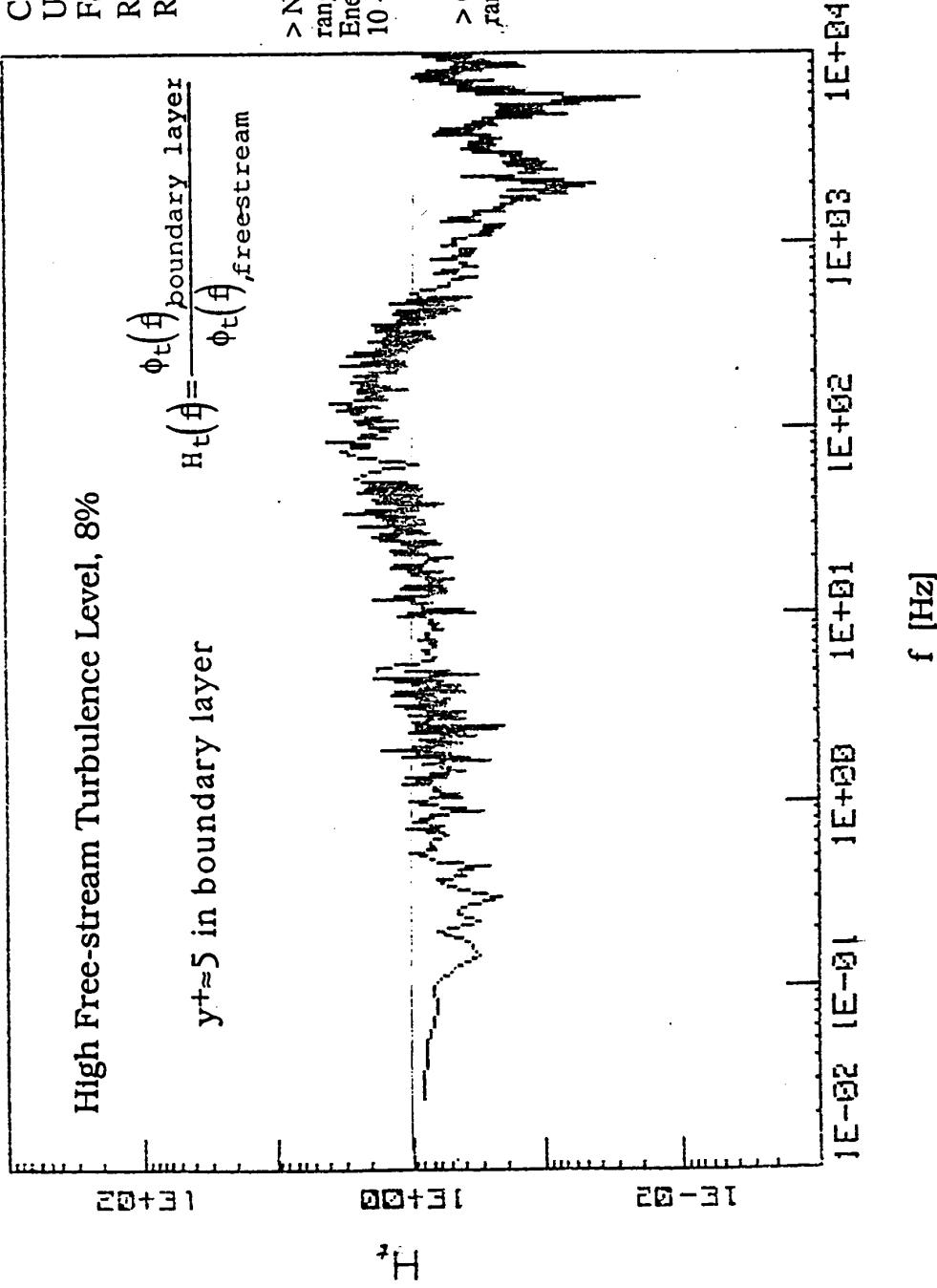
TRANSFER FUNCTION

High Free-stream Turbulence Level, 8%

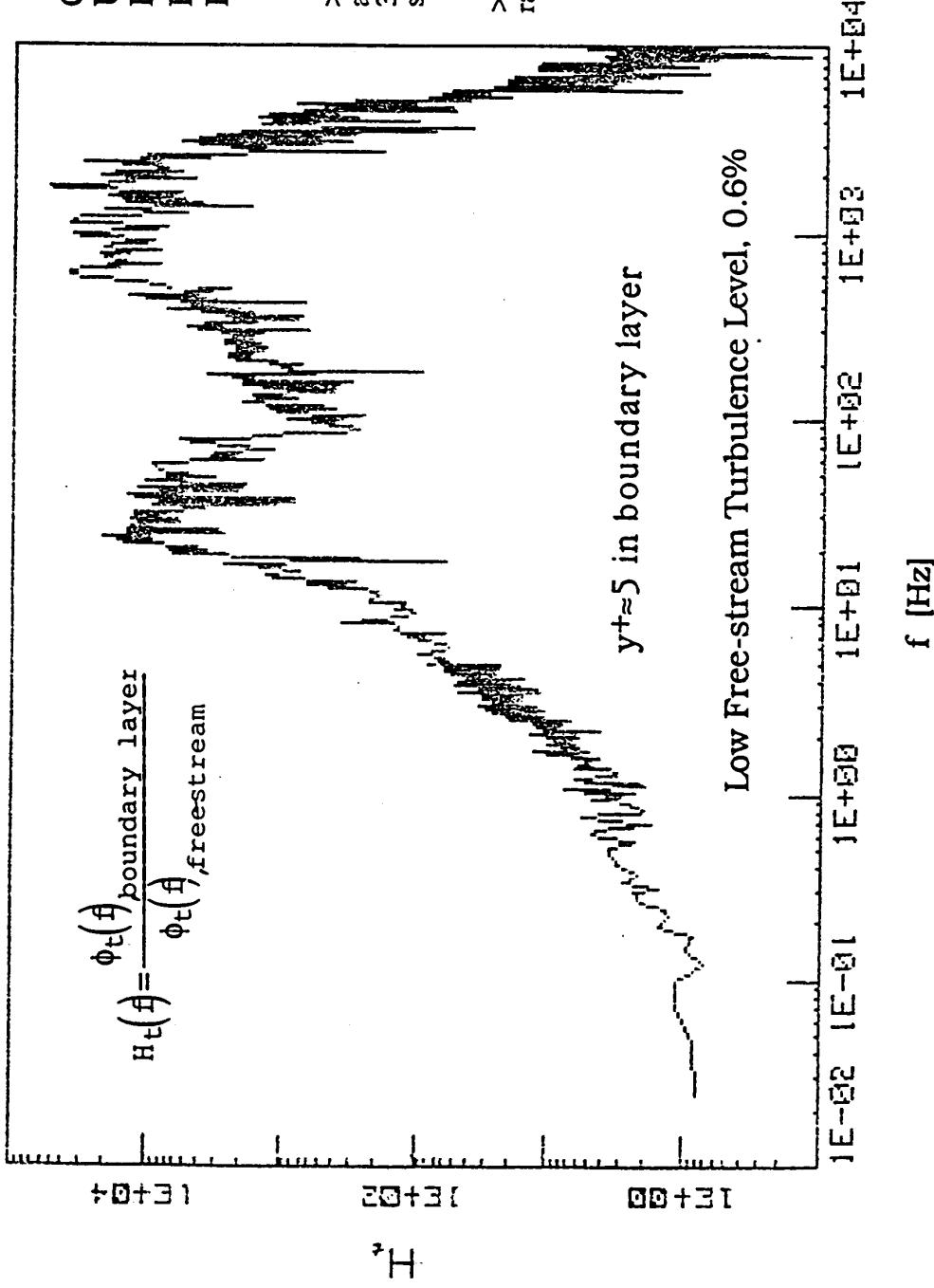
$y^+ \approx 5$ in boundary layer

$$H_t(f) = \frac{\phi_t(f)_{\text{boundary layer}}}{\phi_t(f)_{\text{freestream}}}$$

- > Note, $H=2$ in the 50 - 300 Hz range. Damped above 300 Hz.
- > Energy in free-stream distributed over 10 - 2000 Hz.
- > Orr-Sommerfeld unstable frequency range, 1200 - 1900 Hz.



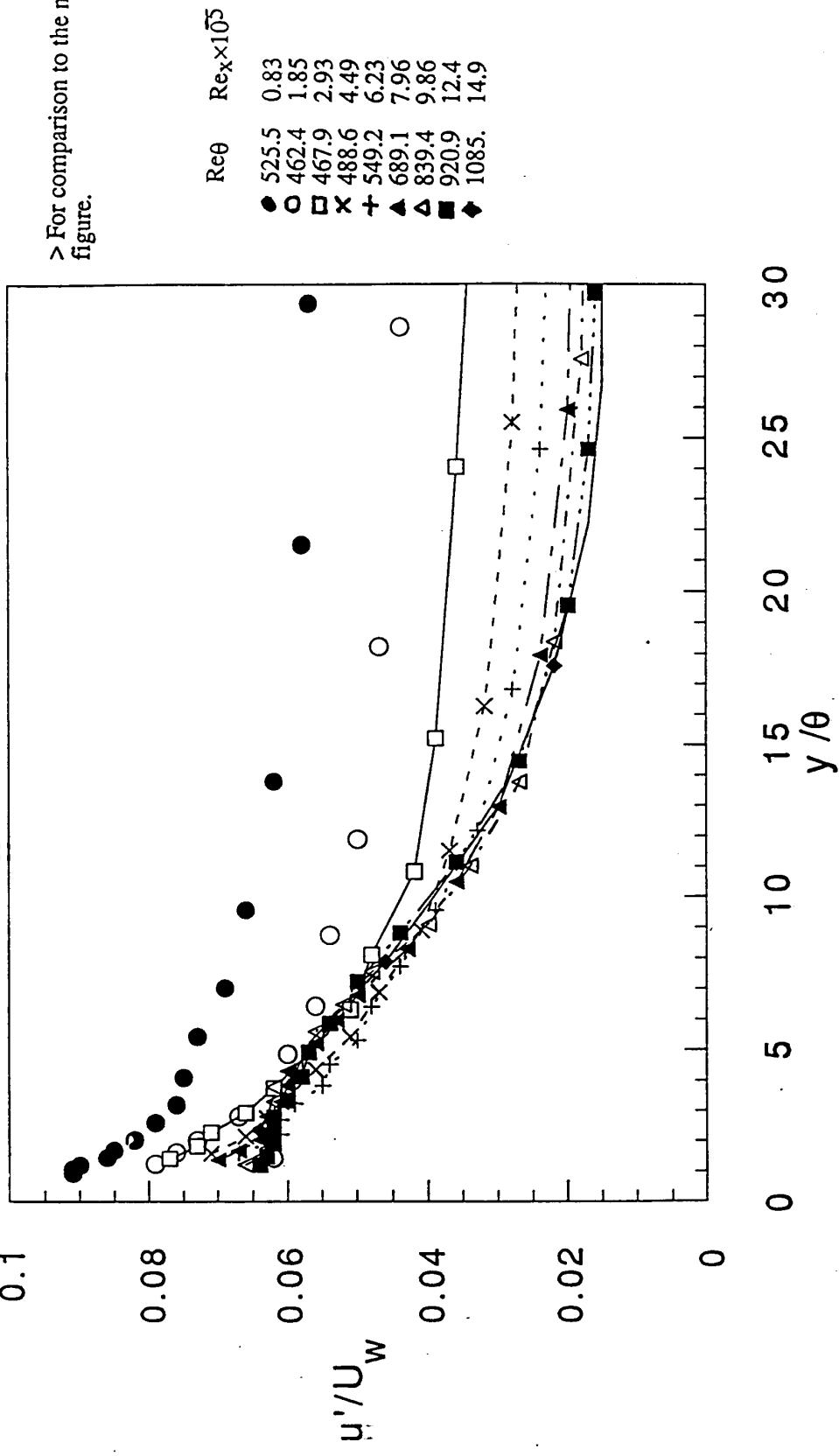
TRANSFER FUNCTION



Normal Stress Profiles, Concave Wall, R=1m

Accelerated, $dU/dx = 31 s^{-1}$, FSTI=8%

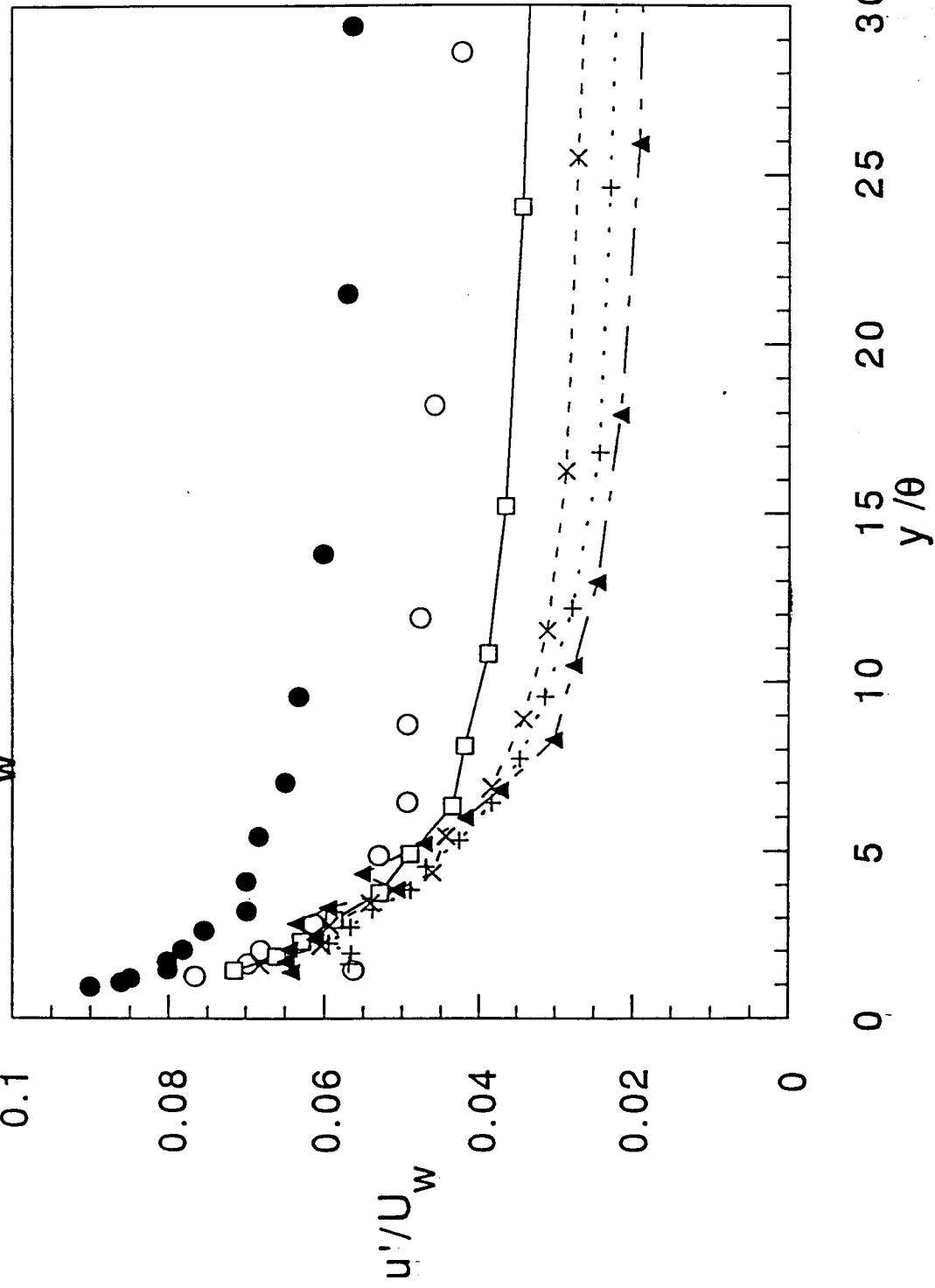
> For comparison to the next figure.



Normal Stress Profiles, Non-Turbulent Zone

Concave Wall, R=1m, Accelerated

$$\frac{dU_w}{dx} = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad FSTI = 8\%$$



> Note the very large contribution from the non-turbulent zone.

> u' laminar -- values computed from measurements taken only when flow is identified to be non-turbulent -- based upon the u' signal.

Development of Velocity and Temperature Profile Correlations for Accelerated Flow

- Start with boundary layer equation

Assume constant properties

$$\rho u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \rho v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial y} + \frac{dP}{dx} = 0$$

- Do not make Couette flow assumptions

- Do not set dP/dx term to zero

- Eliminate v using continuity equation

- Integrate from zero to y

- Convert to wall coordinates

For convection terms,

$$\int(a)dy = \int(b)dy^+ + \int(c)dx$$

Assume history independent and set last integral to zero

- Resulting equation

$$\frac{\tau}{\tau_0} = 1 + p^+ y^+ + \left(\frac{K}{\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}} + \frac{v}{U_\infty \frac{c_f}{2}} \frac{d\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}}{dx} \right) \int_0^{y^+} u^{+2} dy^+$$

- Apply mixing length model with vanDriest damping

$$\frac{\tau}{\tau_0} = \left(1 + \kappa^2 y^{+2} \left(1 - e^{-y^+/A^+} \right)^2 \frac{du^+}{dy^+} \right) \frac{du^+}{dy^+}$$

$k=0.41$

Variable A^+ as a function of p^+

- Solve for du^+/dy^+ and integrate

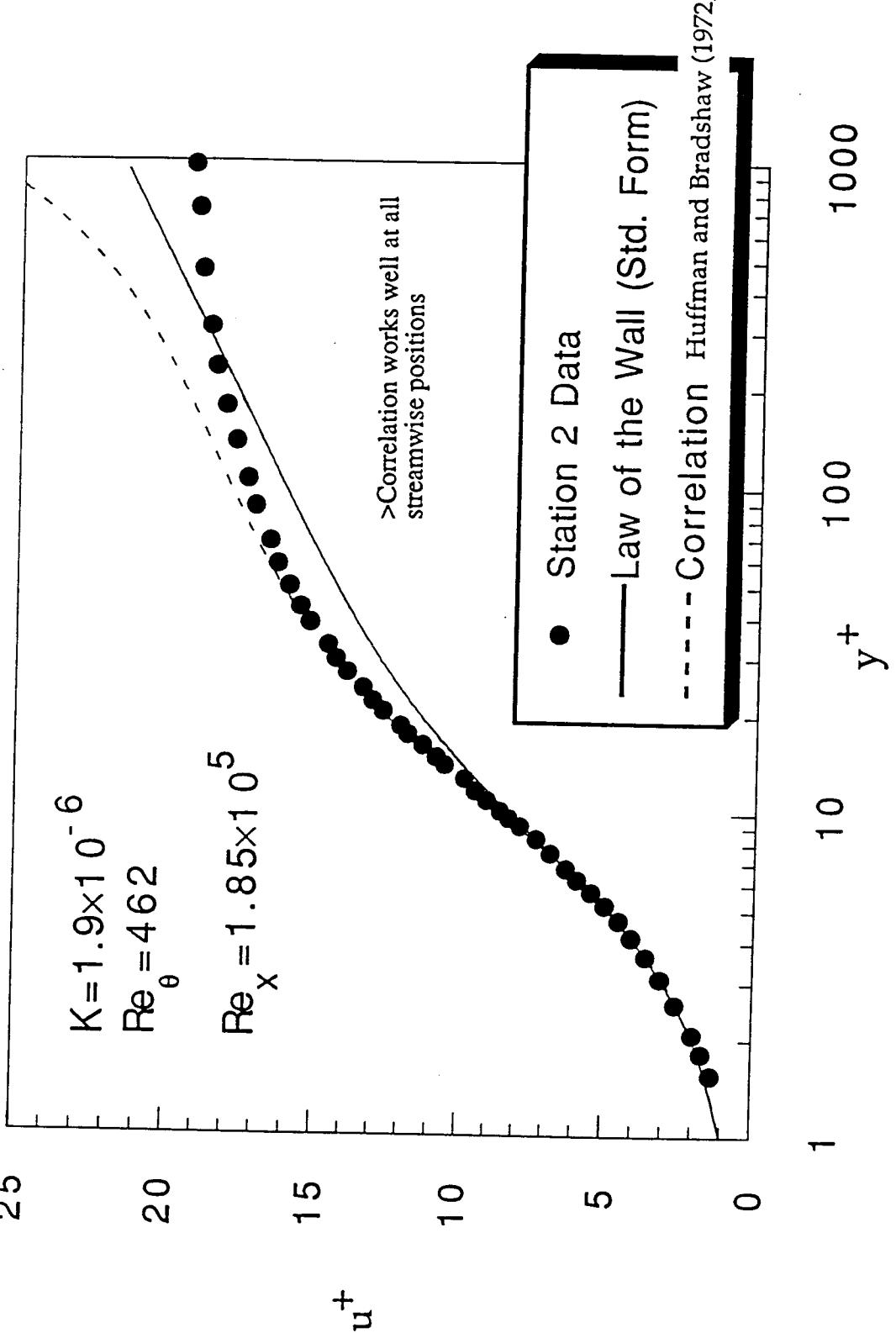
$$u^+ = \int_0^{y^+} \left[\frac{-1 + \sqrt{1 + 4 \left(1 + p^+ y^+ + \left(\frac{K}{\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}} + \frac{v}{U_\infty \frac{c_f}{2}} \frac{d\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}}{dx} \right) \int_0^{y^+} u^{+2} dy^+ \right) \left(\kappa^2 y^{+2} \left(1 - e^{-y^+/A^+} \right)^2 \right)}}{2 \left(\kappa^2 y^{+2} \left(1 - e^{-y^+/A^+} \right)^2 \right)} dy^+ \right]$$

- Similar derivation for temperature profile. For constant heat flux b.c.:

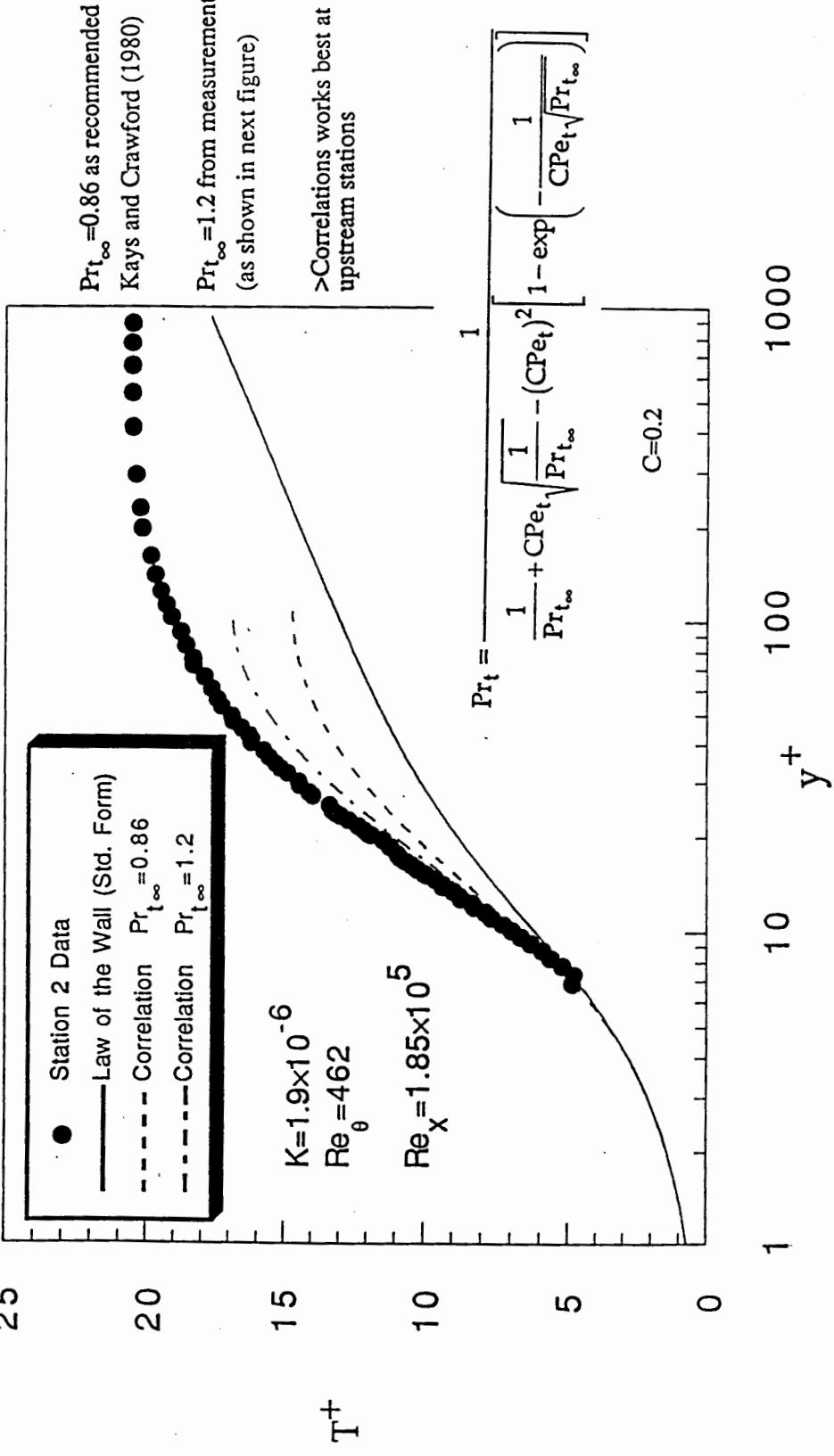
$$t^+ = \int_0^{y^+} \left[\frac{1 + \left(\frac{t_\infty^{+2} v}{U_\infty \frac{c_f}{2}} \frac{dSt}{dx} + \frac{K t^+}{\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}} \right) \int_0^{y^+} u^+ dy^+ - \left(\frac{K}{\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}} + \frac{v}{U_\infty \frac{c_f}{2}} \frac{d\sqrt{\frac{c_f}{2}}}{dx} \right) \int_0^{y^+} u^+ t^+ dy^+}{\frac{1}{Pr} + \frac{\kappa^2 y^{+2} \left(1 - e^{-y^+/A^+} \right)^2}{Pr_t} \frac{du^+}{dy^+}} dy^+ \right]$$

Velocity Profile, Accelerated Flow

$dU_w / dx = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}$, Transitional Station

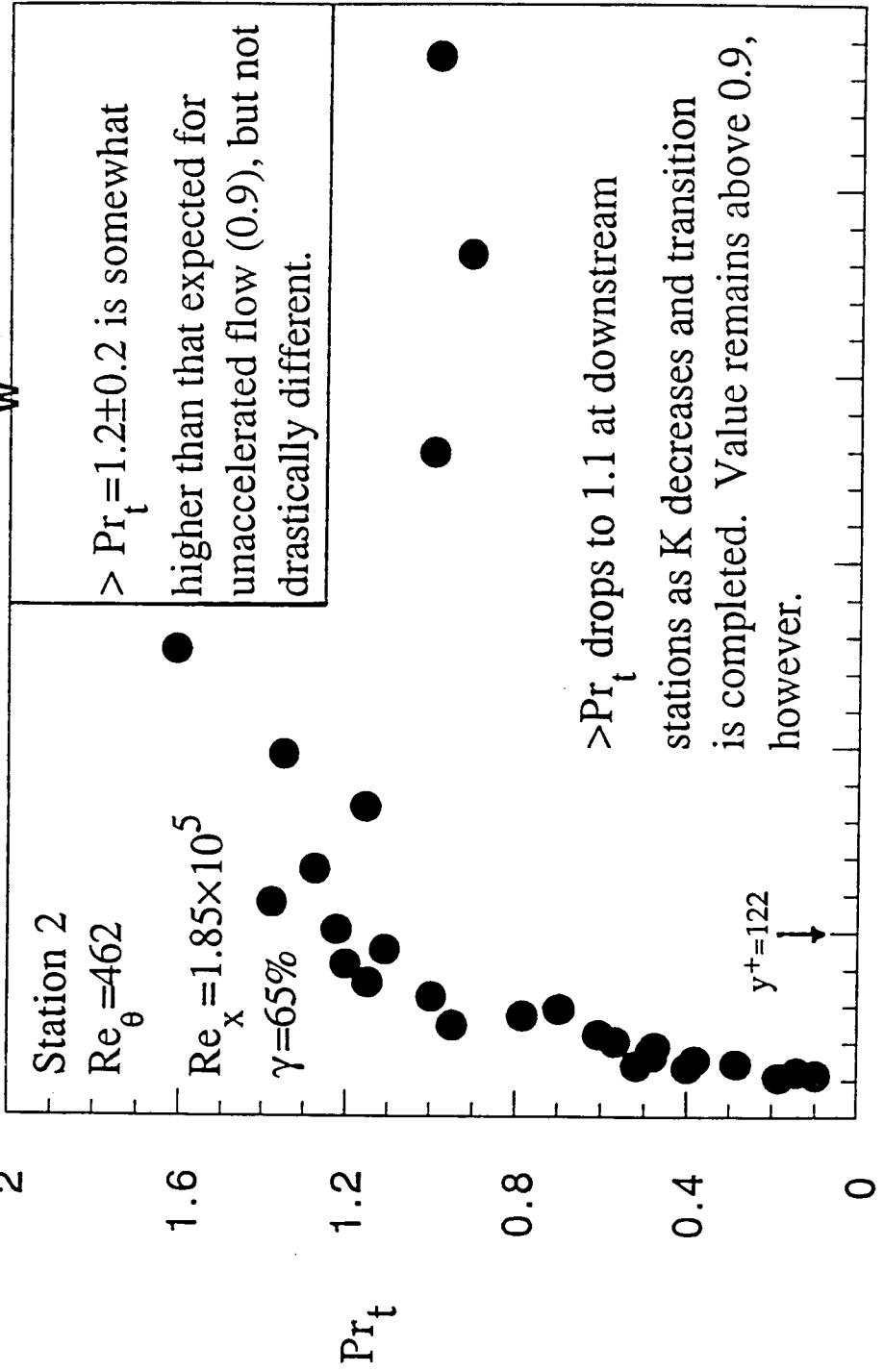


Temperature Profile, Accelerated Flow $dU_w / dx = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}$, Transitional Station



Turbulent Prandtl Number
Concave Wall, $R=1\text{ m}$

Accelerated Flow, $dU/dx = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}$

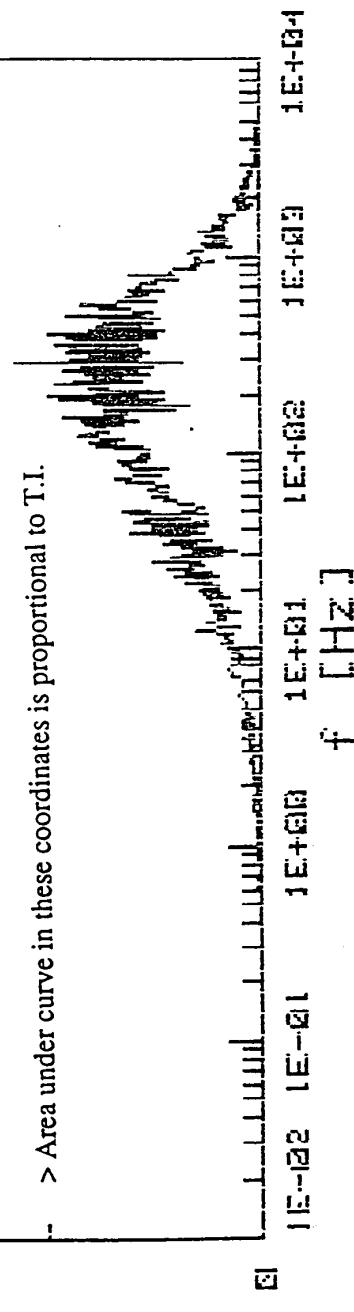


BOUNDARY LAYER SPECTRA

Concave Wall, R=1m
 Accelerated Flow, $dU_w/dx = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 FSTI=8% initially

Station 1
 $Re_\theta = 525.5$
 $Re_x = 0.83 \times 10^{-5}$
 Local $K = 2.85 \times 10^{-6}$
 Local FSTI = 5.5%
 $y^+ = 17$, (maximum u')
 $\Lambda = 1.2 \text{ cm}$, $U_{\text{local}}/\Lambda = 660 \text{ Hz}$ in boundary layer
 $\Lambda = 4.5 \text{ cm}$, $U_w/\Lambda = 300 \text{ Hz}$ in free-stream
 Orr-Sommerfeld unstable frequencies 450 - 900 Hz

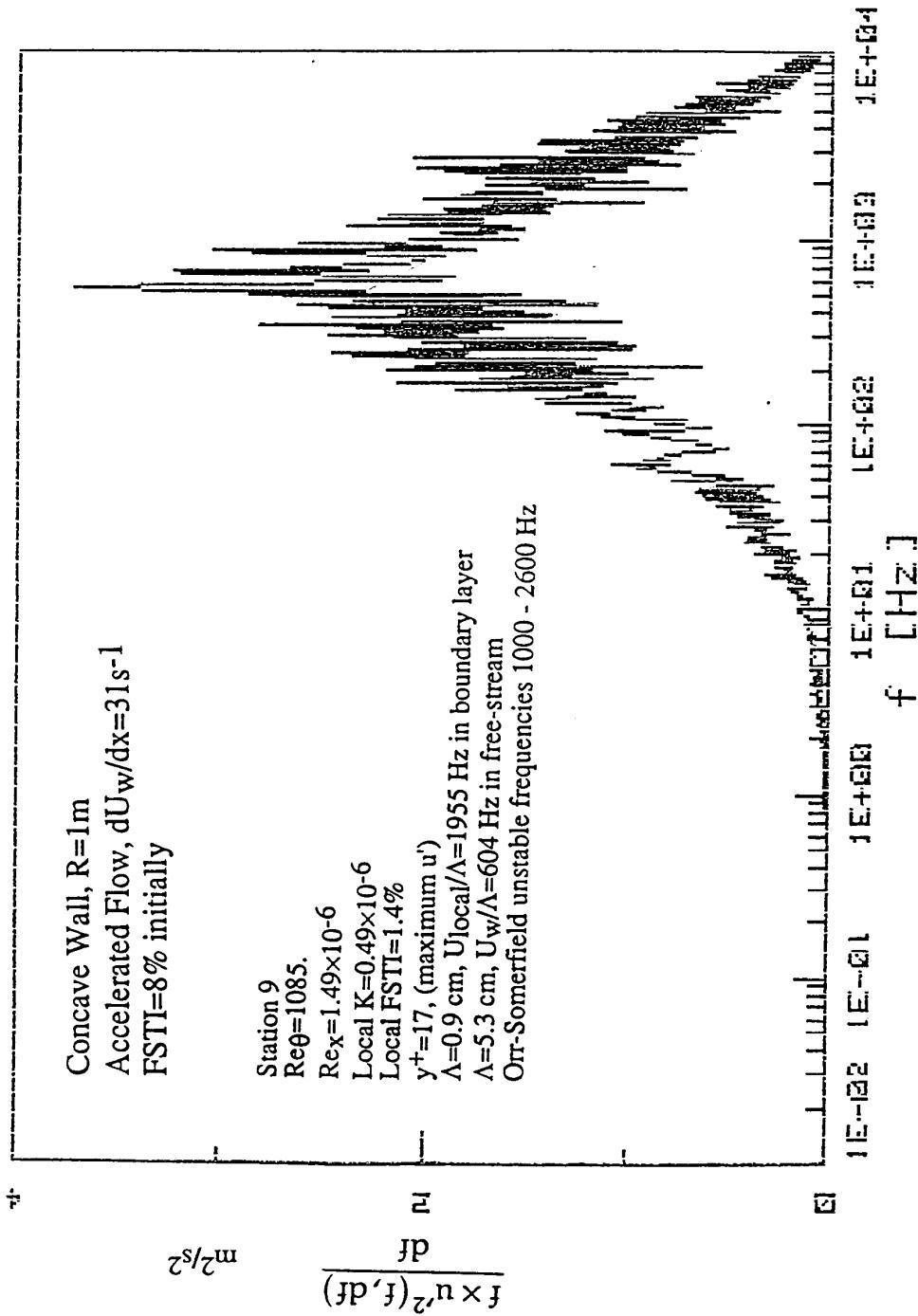
> Area under curve in these coordinates is proportional to T.I.



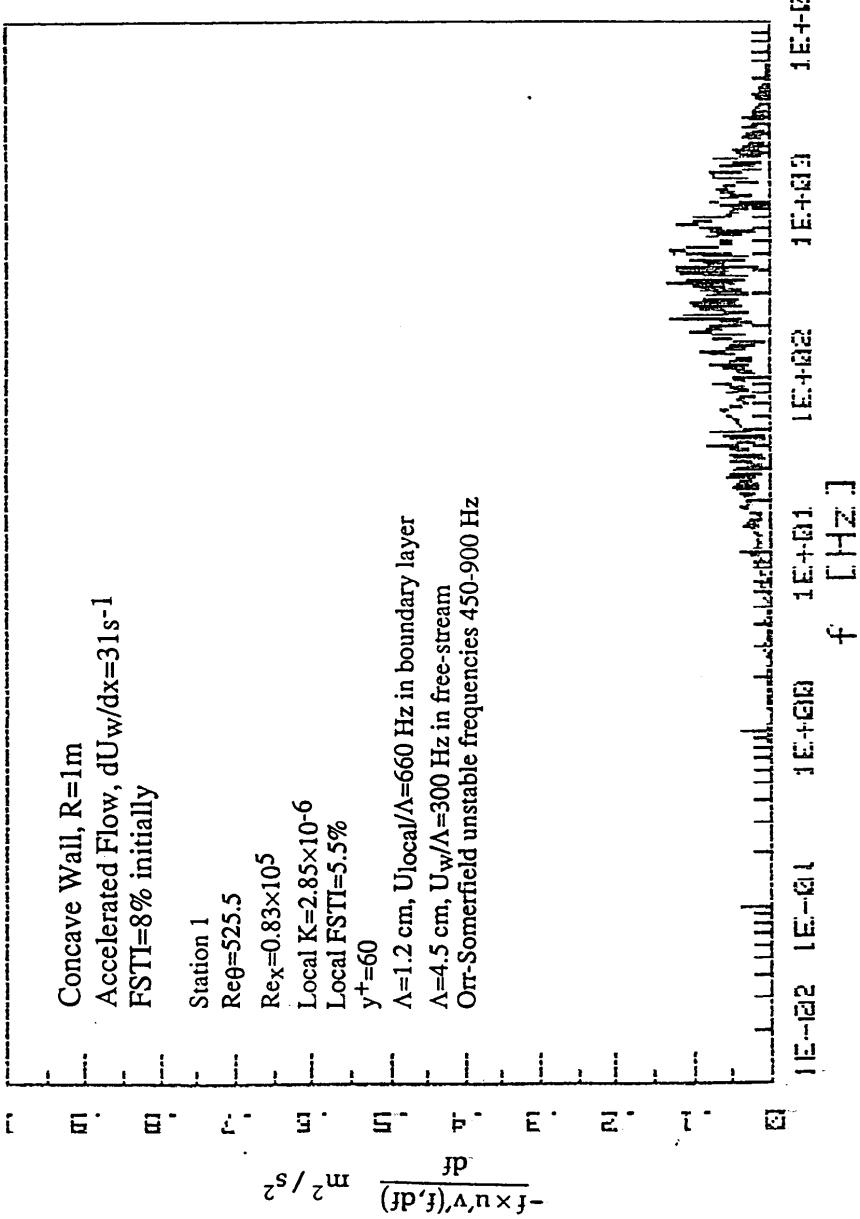
BOUNDARY LAYER SPECTRA

Concave Wall, R=1m
 Accelerated Flow, $dU_w/dx = 31\text{s}^{-1}$
 FSTI=8% initially

Station 9
 $Re\theta = 1085$.
 $Re_x = 1.49 \times 10^{-6}$
 Local K = 0.49×10^{-6}
 Local FSTI = 1.4%
 $y^+ = 17$, (maximum u')
 $\Lambda = 0.9$ cm, $U_{local}/\Lambda = 1955$ Hz in boundary layer
 $\Lambda = 5.3$ cm, $U_w/\Lambda = 604$ Hz in free-stream
 Orr-Sommerfeld unstable frequencies 1000 - 2600 Hz

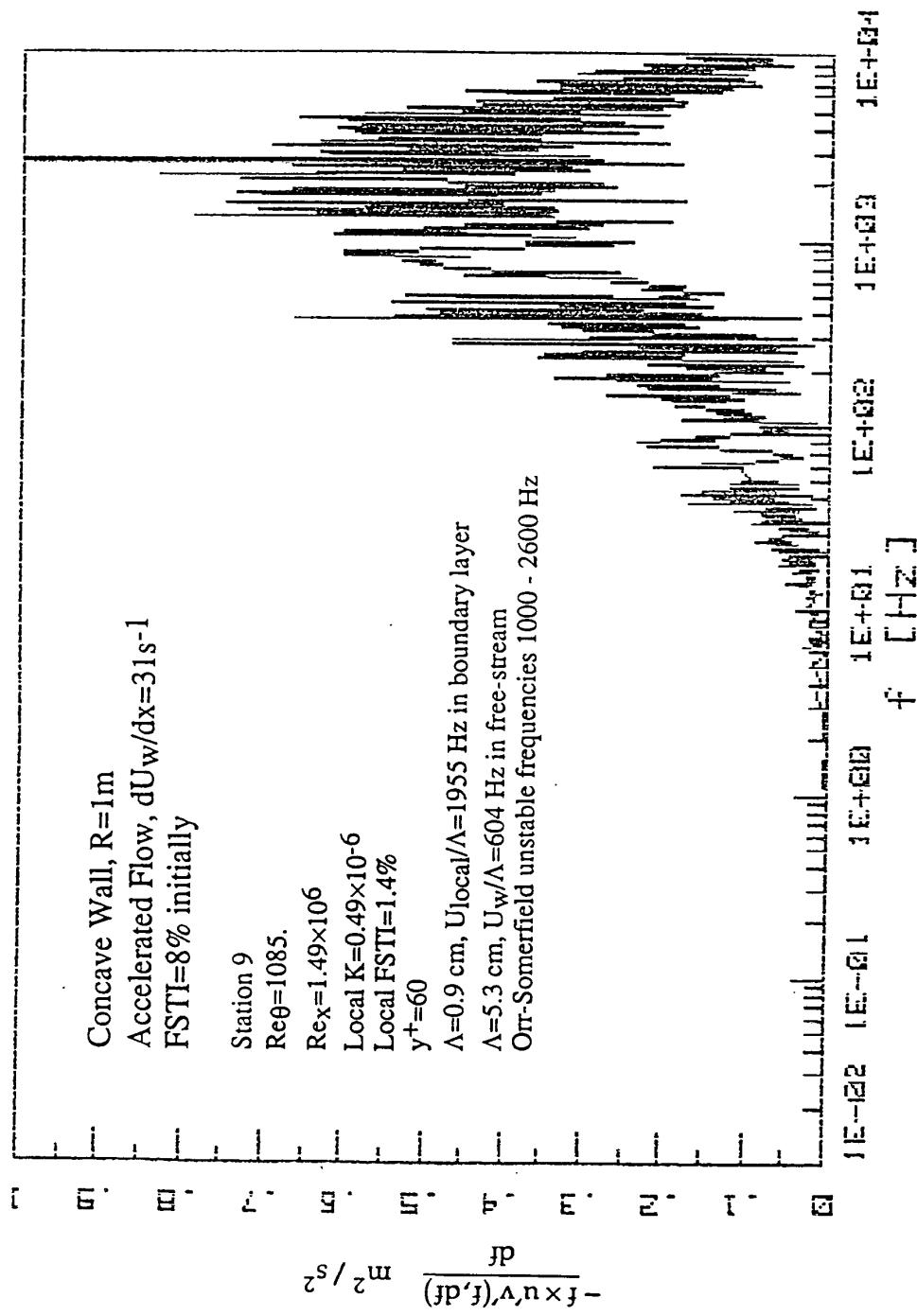


BOUNDARY LAYER SHEAR STRESS SPECTRA



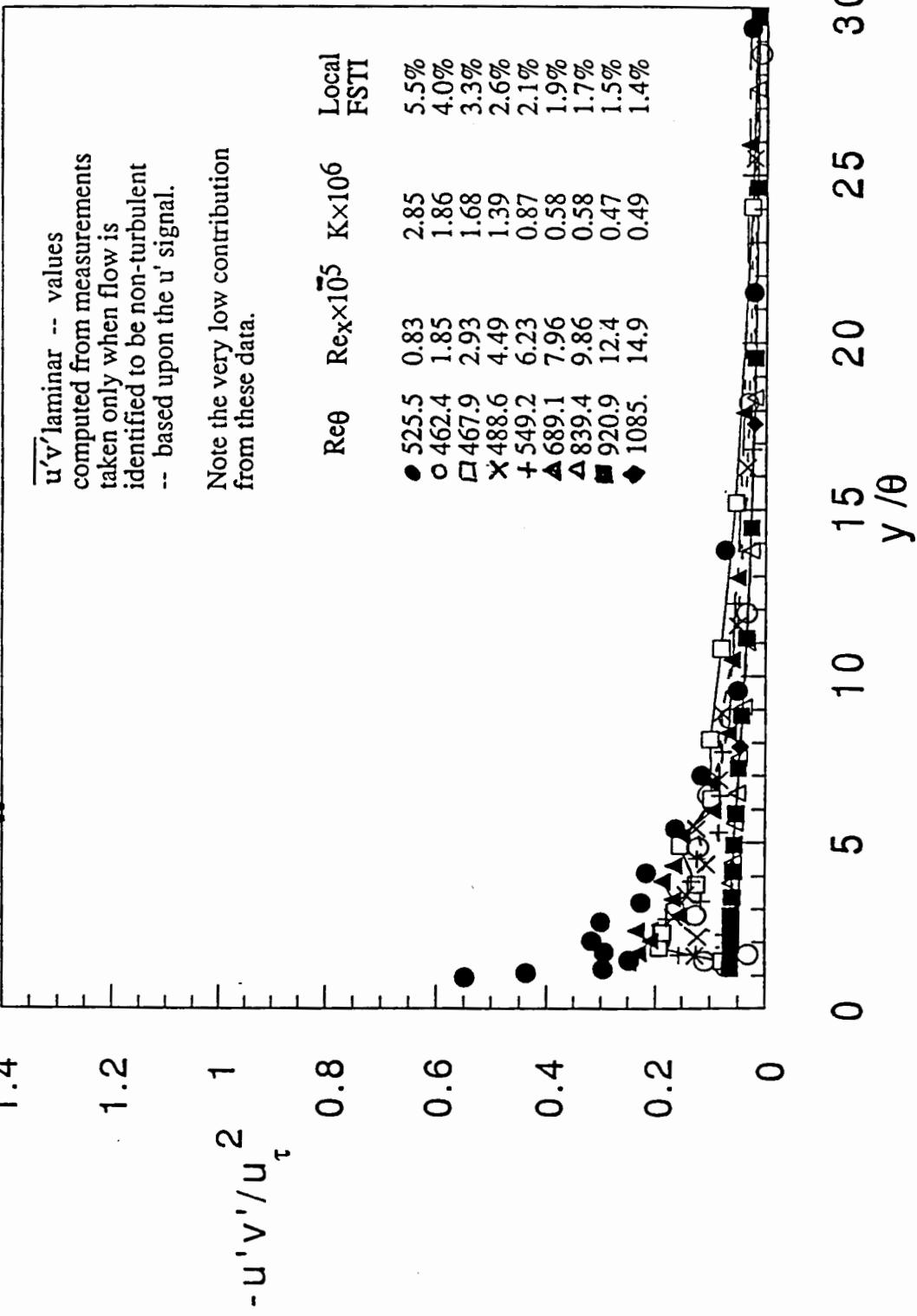
Stable / X⁶⁰

BOUNDARY LAYER SHEAR STRESS SPECTRA

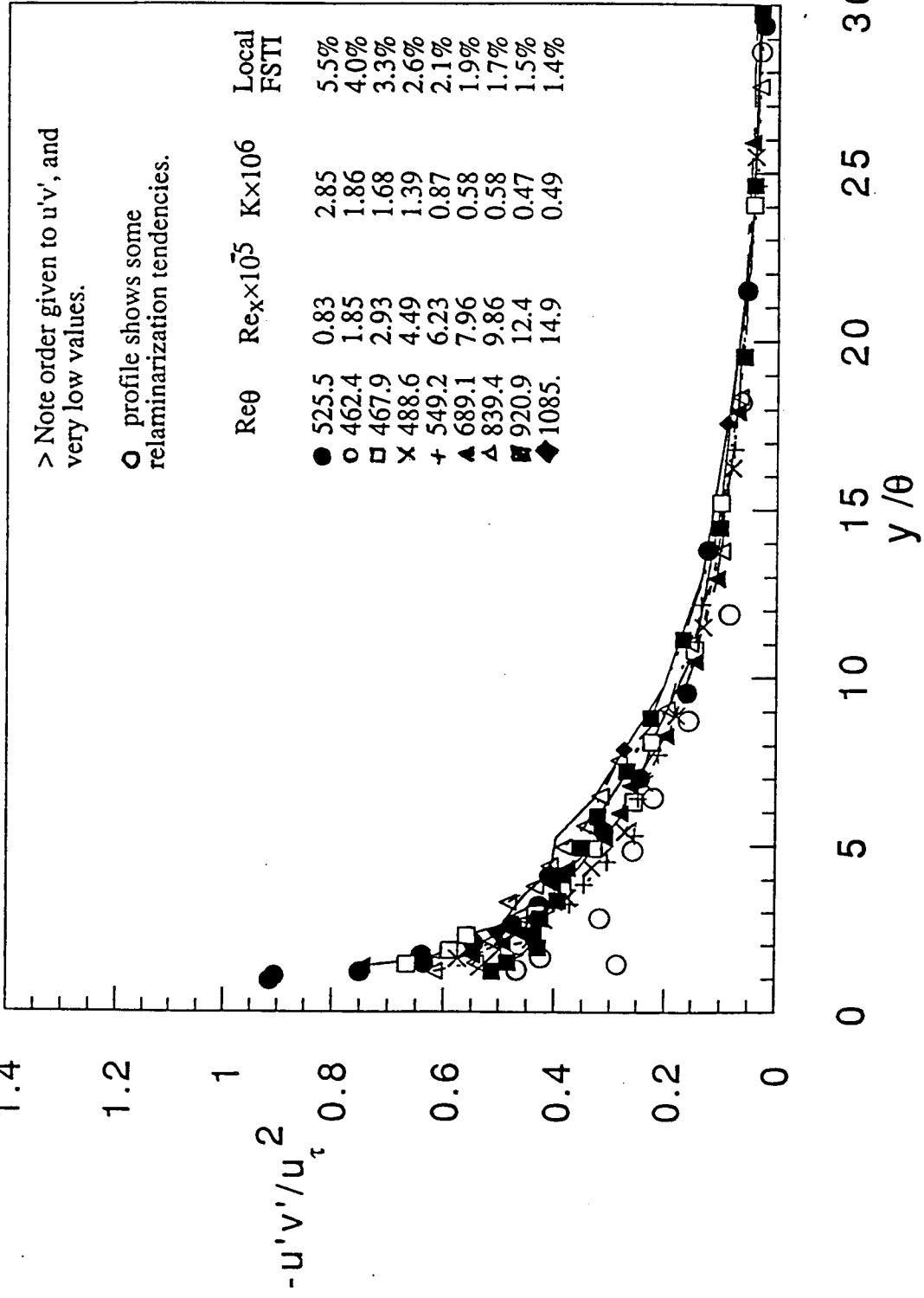


Shear Stress Profiles, Non-Turbulent Zone Concave Wall, R=1m, Accelerated

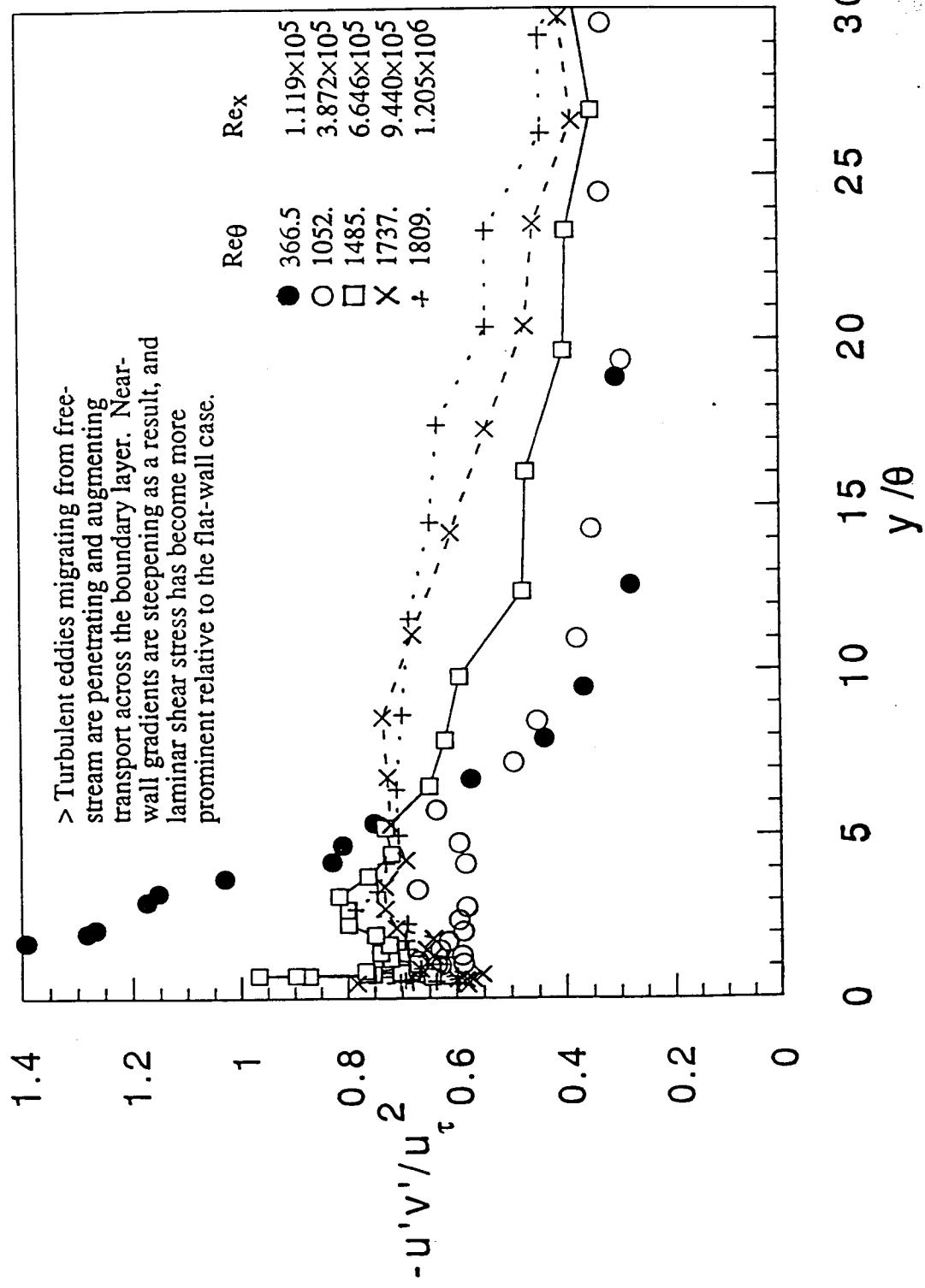
$$\frac{dU_w}{dx} = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}, FSTI=8\%$$

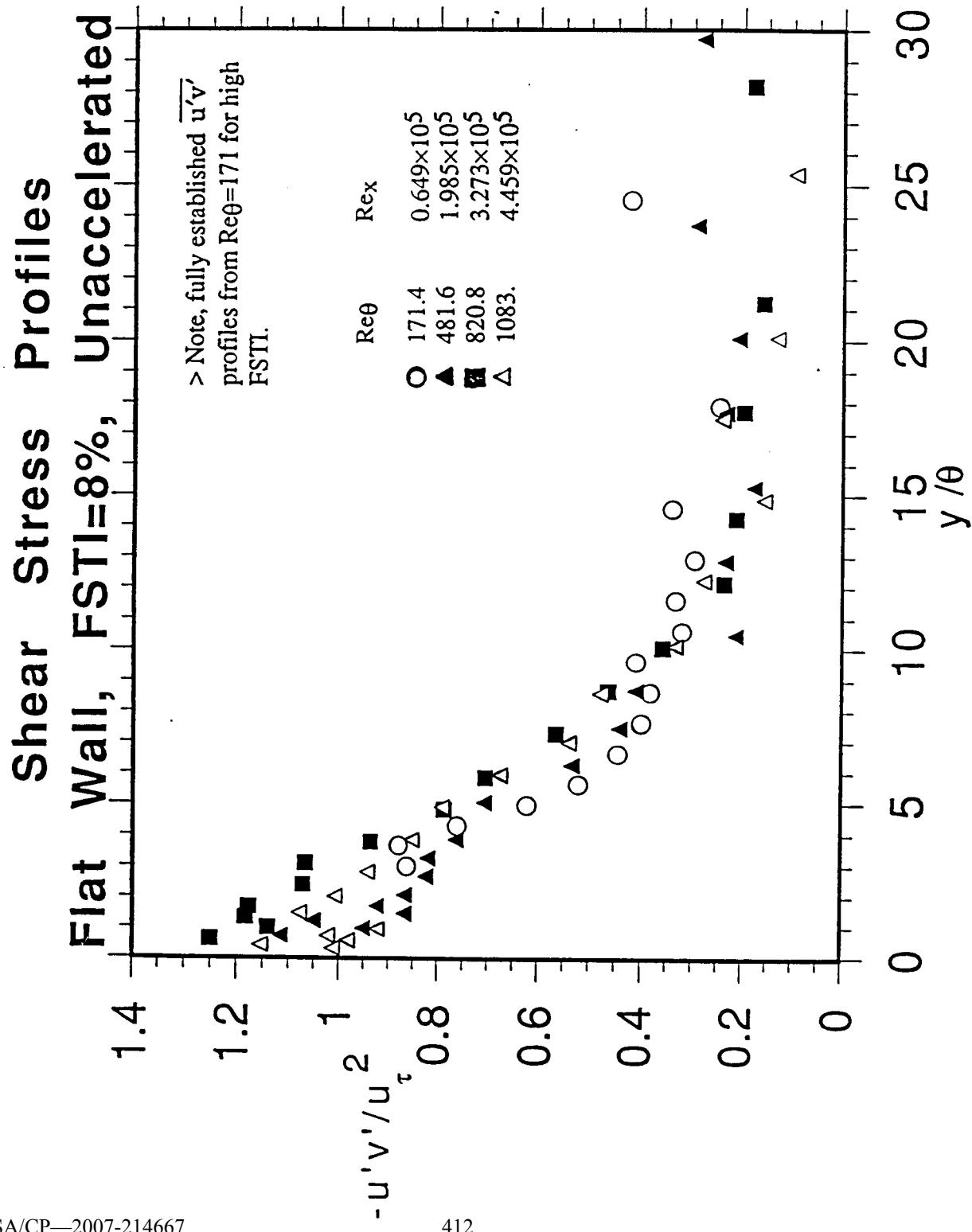


Shear Stress Profiles, Concave Wall, R=1 m Accelerated, $dU_w/dx = 31 \text{ s}^{-1}$, FSTI=8%



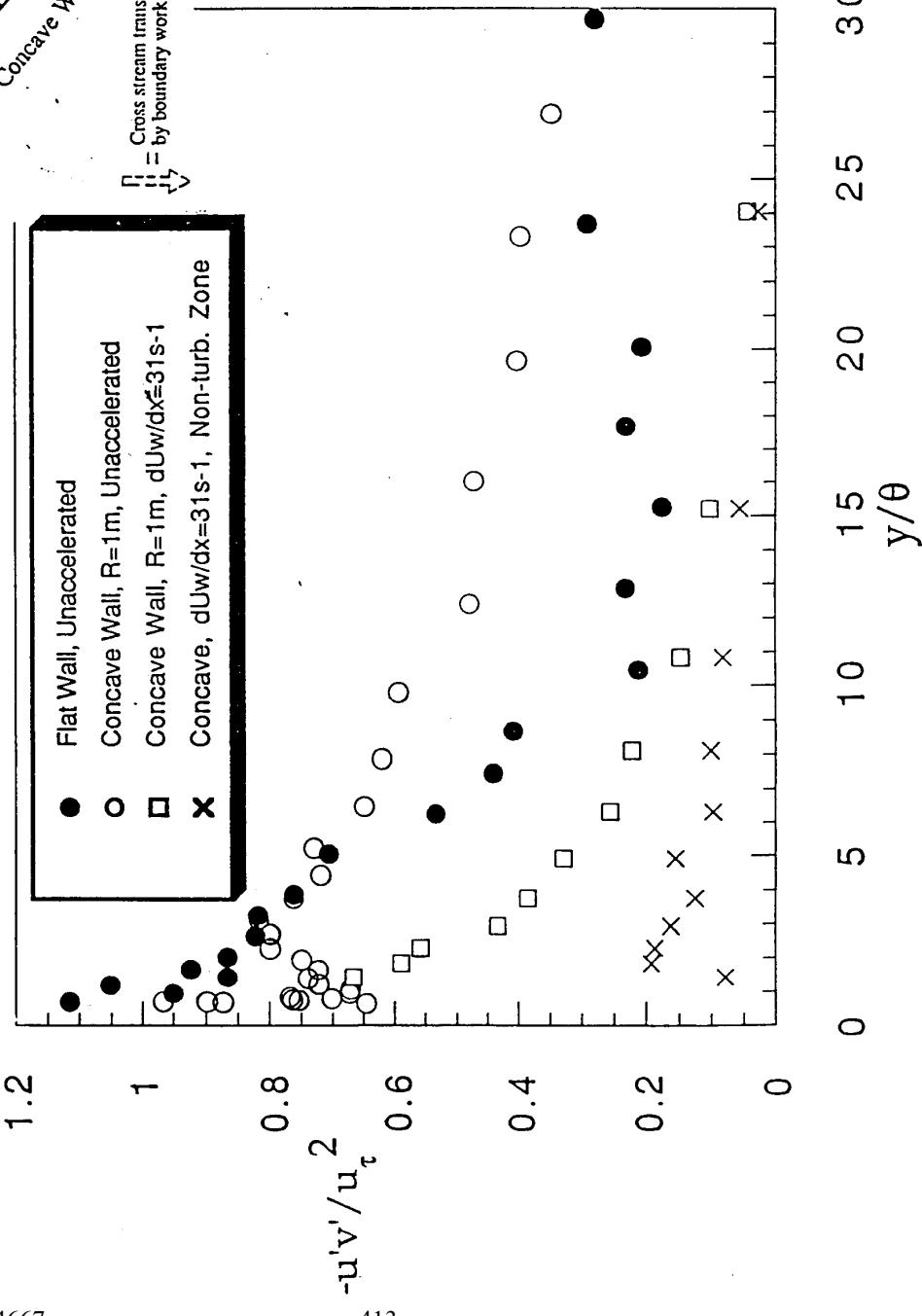
Shear Stress Profiles, Concave Wall $R=1\text{ m}$, Unaccelerated, $|FST| = 8\%$



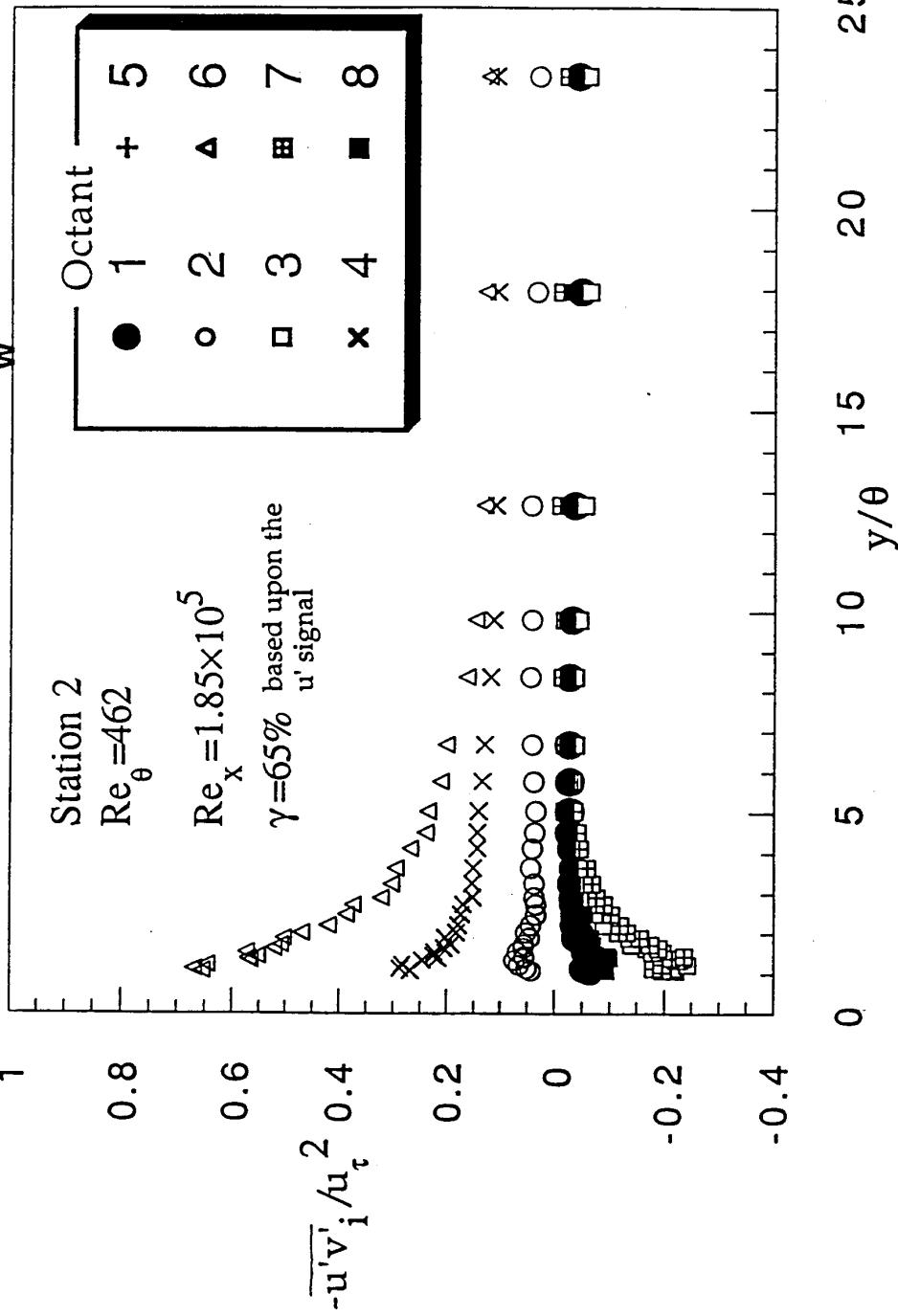


Shear Stress Profiles

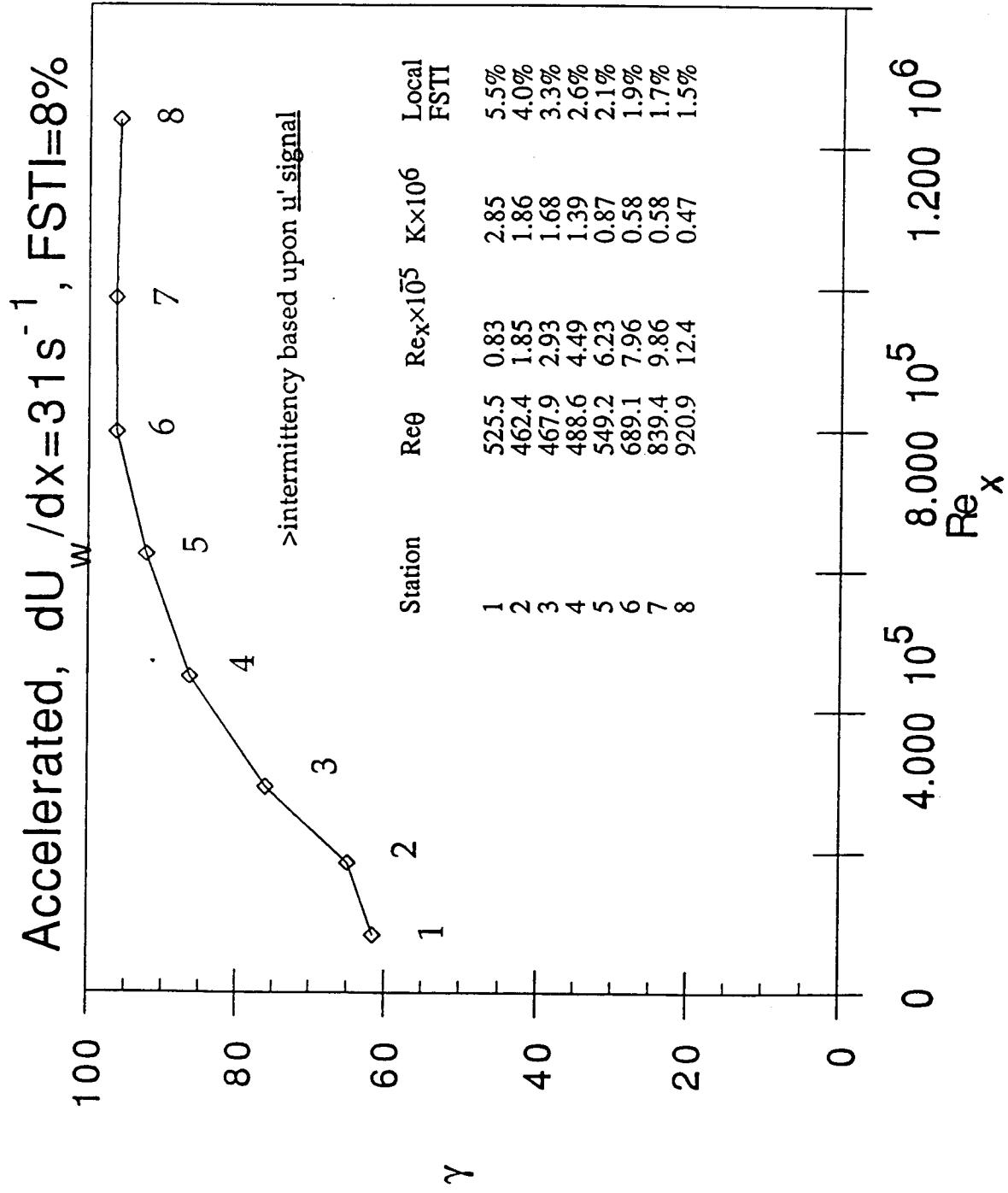
$FSTI = 8\%$



**Turbulent Shear Stress Profiles
Concave Wall, R=1m, FSTI=8 %
Accelerated Flow, $dU_w/dx = 31 s^{-1}$**

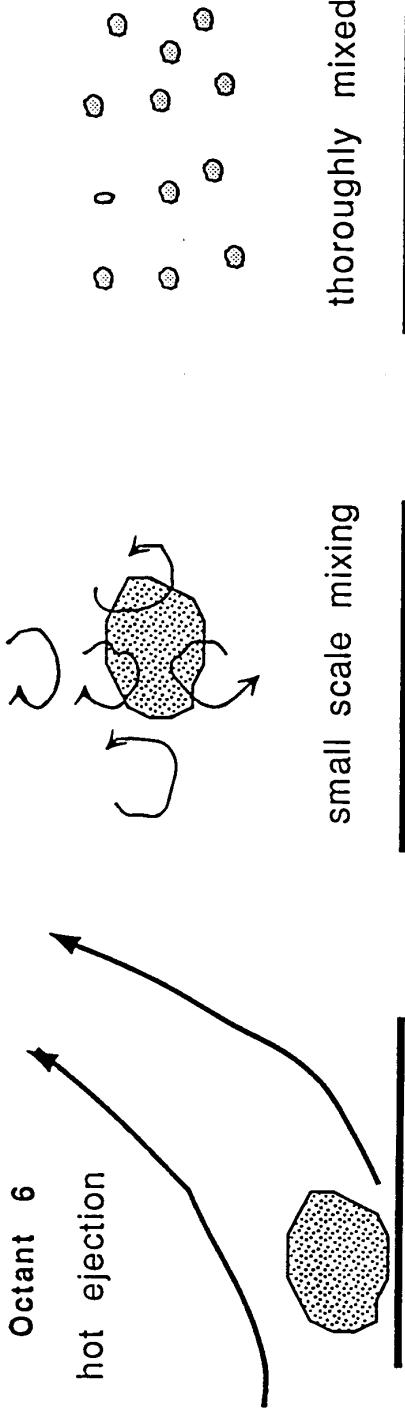


Maximum Intermittency in Profile
Concave Wall, R=1 m

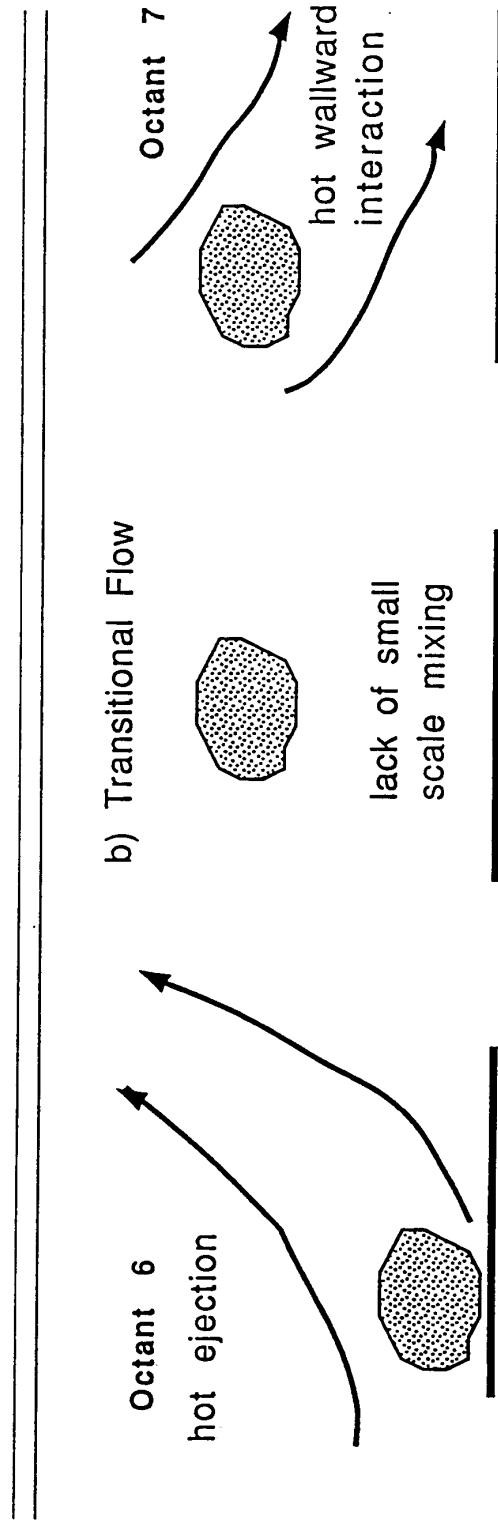


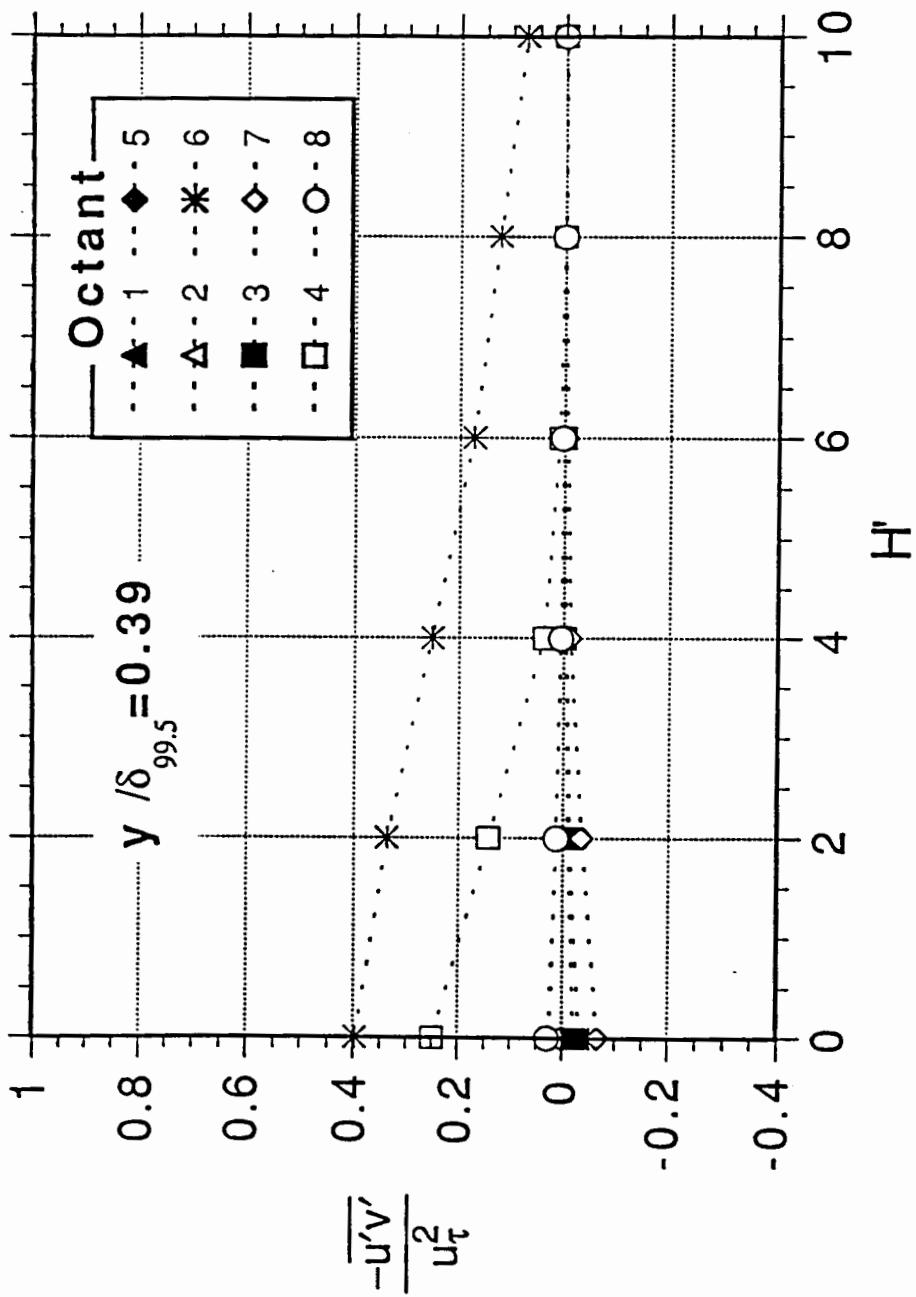
Proposed differences between fully-turbulent and transitional flow structures

a) Fully-Turbulent Flow



b) Transitional Flow

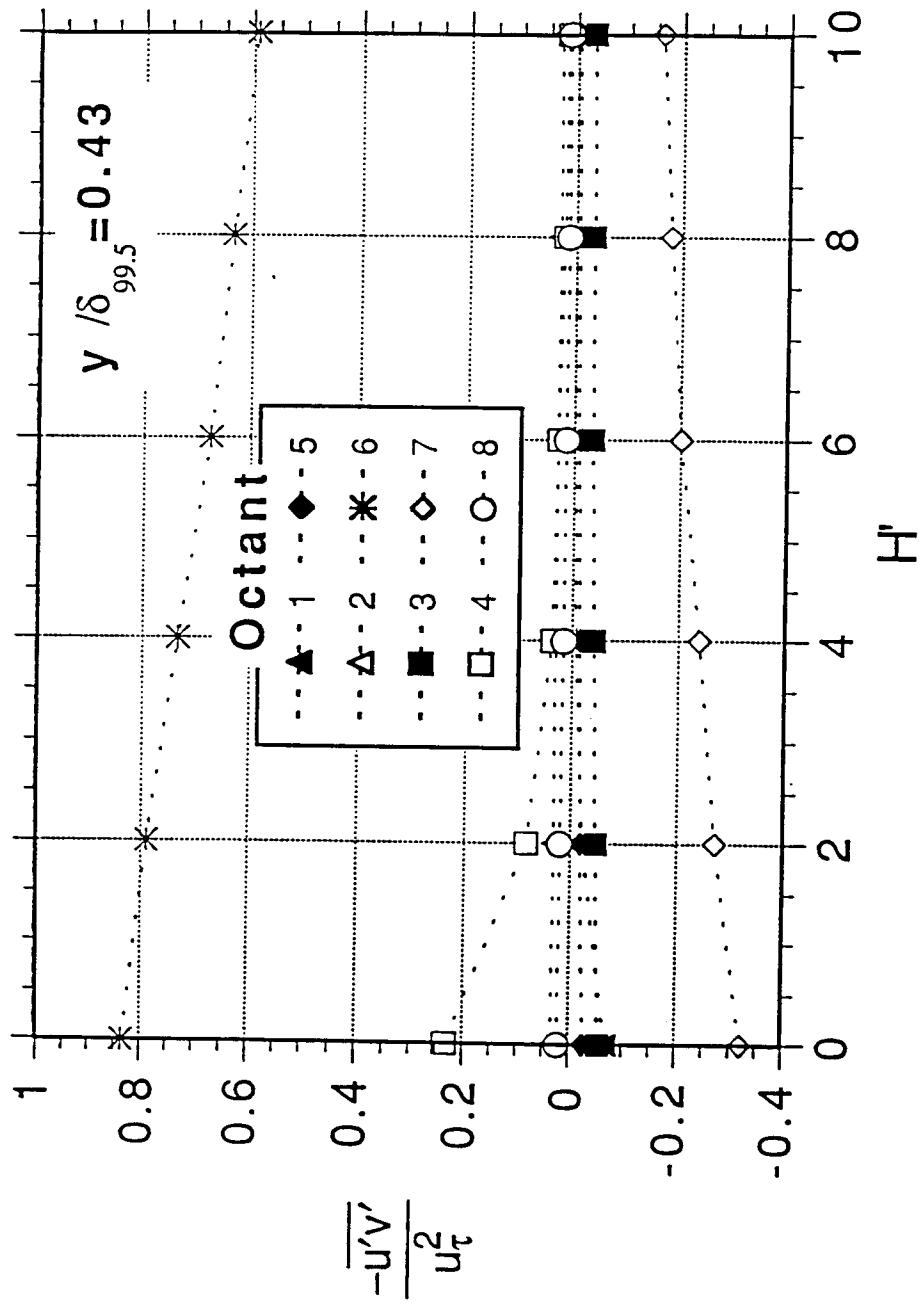




**Turbulent shear stress vs hole size at $y/\delta_{99.5} = 0.39$,
1.5% FSTI flat-wall case, fully-turbulent flow**

$\text{Re}\theta=1587$, $\text{Rex}=1.062 \times 10^6$

> Note that in contrast to transitional flows, the contribution becomes small
at large H' values.



**Turbulent shear stress vs hole size at $y/\delta_{99.5} = 0.43$,
1.5% FSTI flat-wall case, transitional flow**

$Re\theta=379$, $Rex=0.3442\times 10^6$, $\gamma=5\%$

> When $H' \neq 0$, smaller values of $u'v'$ are not used in processing $\overline{u'v'}$ octants.
As H' increases, the filter threshold on $u'v'$ grows. Thus, if values are large
when H' is large, they come about due to strong events. Note that octants 6
and 7 remain large at large H' values.

CONCLUSIONS

SPANWISE INTERACTION OF LOCALIZED DISTURBANCES
PROMOTES TRANSITION

Increased Amplitude
Different Spanwise Wavenumbers

THPS transition marked by Gradual Amplification of the Lower than
Fundamental frequencies

TWP Transition marked by distinct lower band of Frequencies

